MCj03321840000[1]**2013 8th Grade Trip to Washington**

### “Information at a Glance”

**Dates:**  **October 23rd , 24th , 25th , 2013 (Wed, Thu, and Fri)**

**Departure Times**: ***Arrive Harmon: Wed, October 23rd , 6:00 a.m.***

# **Return Time:** ***Return to Aurora Fri, October 25th , 9:00 p.m.\****

*\*Return time is approximate. Depending on traffic this time may be slightly later. There will be a reverse 911 call to confirm arrival in DC on Wednesday and another on Friday giving an accurate return time to Harmon.*

**Appearance**: Appropriate “Washington Dress” is required. Dress in layers; be prepared for all types of weather. ***Not appropriate dress***: Blue Jeans, T-shirts, Hoodies, Shorts. (These are fine while in the motel but not as we tour DC.)

**Jacket/Coat**: The weather in Washington D.C. is chilly in late October, especially in the morning. Please include a jacket or coat when you are packing for the trip.

**Behavior**: It is expected that students behave appropriately at all times. All school rules apply. Any damage to your child’s motel room is the responsibility of the parent.

**Motel**: ***National 4H Conference Center***

7100 Connecticut Avenue

Chevy Chase, MD 20815 301-961-2801

*Students will stay with their bus groups in rooms of 4. The National 4H Center is much like a college campus where students stay in dorm rooms. Each room has bunk beds so that each student will have their own bed. Each room also has its own bathroom.*

**Luggage:** Each student is allowed one piece of luggage and one small backpack. Backpack will stay on the bus. Snacks, camera, water, etc. would go in the backpack.

**Medicines**: All medicines must be turned in and inventoried by the school nurse prior to departure. Proper forms and procedures must be followed. Students may not personally keep medication on them except inhalers and epi-pens. We will have a nurse accompany us on our trip who will administer medications as required. If there are medical concerns or questions, please call Sandy Petti, school nurse at 330-954-2287

**Money**: Maximum $50.00 allowed. Students will have opportunities to shop for souvenirs at museums and during mealtimes. Students can call home either by using a phone card or by dialing collect from a pay phone. Cell phones are also permitted –though they are not to be used during tour times except as a camera or in an emergency. School projects will require the use of a camera, preferably digital, during the DC trip.

**Food/Snacks**: A water bottle is requested. A reasonable amount of snacks is permitted. Please limit candy and chips and do not send beef jerky. All meals are provided as part of the cost of the trip.

**Responsibility**: Your child is responsible for items he/she brings (personal electronics, cameras, money)

**Cost:** $325.00 less credits earned through Magazine Drive sales.

**Questions**: **Feel free to call Mr. Abramovich at 330-954-2101**

*Not only is this trip a Harmon 8th grade tradition and important experience that is shared by staff and students, Washington D.C. brings Social Studies to life and enhances the whole 8th grade curriculum. Special projects including the DC Scrapbook Project that will count for credit in all 8th grade classes will be completed in school after the trip.*

***We expect that all Harmon 8th graders will be active participants in this trip.***

**Please see the reverse for a timeline of important pre-trip dates and events and a list of itinerary highlights**.

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| **Week** | **DC Trip Event / Date** |
| Week of August 19th | ***Complete and Return Behavior Contract and Medical Information forms by Friday to your Social Studies teacher. (Fri, August 23rd )***  Current Events and Mock Congress start up activities in Social Studies |
| Week of August 26th | Magazine Drive begins  ***8th Grade Open House ( Thu, August 29th )*** |
| Weeks of September 2nd and 9th | Bus Partner Selection (Pairs of students will be combined to make roommate groups of 4) |
| Week of September 16th | Room and Bus Assignments Made  Initial Bus Meetings  Initial DC Chaperone Meetings |
| Week of September 23rd | ***Parent Meeting (Thursday, September 26th @ 7pm )*** |
| Week of September 30th | ***Medical Information , Doctor’s Permission Forms, and Medication due to Sandy Petti***  Follow up Bus and Chaperone meetings  ***DC Fee due (Friday, October 4th )*** |
| Week of October 7th |  |
| Week of October 14th | Trip and Project Planning in Social Studies along with additional trip- related activities in other 8th grade classes. |
| Week of October 21st | Washington Group Photo Line Up  Final DC Chaperone Meetings  Final Bus Meetings  **Washington DC Trip October 23rd, 24th, 25th** |

MCj01493390000[1]Itinerary Highlights

* WWII Memorial and Wreath Laying Ceremony
* Jefferson Memorial
* FDR Memorial
* Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial
* Korean War Memorial
* Lincoln Memorial
* Vietnam War Memorial
* Marine Corps Memorial
* Arlington National Cemetery including Kennedy Graves, Tomb of the Unknowns, and Changing of the Guard
* Mount Vernon
* Smithsonian Natural History Museum
* National Museum of American History
* Night Tour of Monuments and Memorials
* Whitehouse Photo Stop
* **Capitol Tour with Congressman David Joyce**
* Group Photo at the Capitol
* Dance / Games at the National 4H Center
* And… much, much more… plans are progressing. The final itinerary will be presented to parents at the parent meeting and to students in their Social Studies Classes.

**\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*There is a parent meeting on Thursday, September 26th , at 7:00pm\* in the Harmon Commons. Information on the itinerary, food and health concerns will be provided, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions.**